

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 HEW-04

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 HA-05 CA-01 SCS-06

EB-08 USIE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 /062 W

-----106927 251308Z /50

O 251122Z NOV 77 ZDK

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3421

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN GER IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 10988

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, ICRC

SUBJECT: ICRC APPEAL FOR AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

REF: A. MOGADISCIO 1892; B. ADDIS ABABA 6349 (BOTH NOTAL)

1. MISSION HAS JUST RECEIVED TELEPHONE INQUIRY FROM INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC) DELEGATE GENERAL FOR AFTICA SCHMIDT WHETHER U.S. WOULD BE IN POSITION TO PROVIDE MILITARY (OR IF POSSIBLE, AND PREFERABLY, CIVILIAN) AIRLIFT FOR EARLY DELIVERY OF 30 TONS OF NEEDED MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO MOGADISCIO.

2. SCHMIDT STATED THAT AS RESULT OF INTENSIFIED FIGHTING IN OGADEN, LARGE NUMBERS OF WOUNDED ARE ACCUMULATING AT THE HARGESSA HOSPITAL AND FOUR FIELD HOSPITALS, ONE OF WHICH IS AT BERBERA. ICRC HAS ON HAND IN GENEVA 30 TONS OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES WHICH IT WISHES TO RUSH TO SOMALIA
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TO MEET THESE NEEDS. HOWEVER, THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN A CIVILIAN CHARTER ONLY FOR DECEMBER 6. SCHMIDT INDICATED THAT THE SOMALI RED CRESCENT IS IMPATIENT FOR DELIVERY OF THESE MEDICINES, AND IS TAKING ICRC TO TASK FOR THE ANTICIPATED DELAY. SCHMIDT THEREFORE INQUIRED WHETHER IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE FOR DELIVERY BY U.S. MILITARY AIRCRAFT. HE INDICATED ICRC WAS FULLY

APPRECIATIVE OF SENSITIVE POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVED, BUT FELT COMPELLED TO AT LEAST MAKE INQUIRY UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES. HE STATED THAT ICRC WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO REIMBURSE COSTS IF THIS WERE NECESSARY.

3. SCHMIDT SAID THAT IF PROVISION COULD BE MADE FOR DELIVERY BY U.S. AIRCRAFT, ICRC WOULD ASSIST IN ARRANGING CLEARANCES IN GENEVA. HE ALSO STATED THAT AN ICRC DOCTOR WOULD ACCOMPANY THE SHIPMENT.

4. REQUEST RESPONSE FROM DEPARTMENT AND ACTION ADDRESSEES BY NIACT IMMEDIATE, PREFERABLY BEFORE 1800 GMT NOVEMBER 25 FOR RELAY TO ICRC. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Litigation History:
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